THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT.

Thanksgiving Meeting Last Evening.

Large Attendance of Colored People.

Addresses by Rev. Stanford, Rev. John Peck and Others—The Colored Men Urged to be Guarded in Their Expressions—A Hit at Interviewers, etc., etc.

A thanksgiving meeting of colored citizens, in honor of the fifteenth amendment, was held at the Wylie Street A. M. E. Church Friday evening. The meeting was held at the request of delegates attending the Pittsburgh conference, and who will not be able to participate in the demonstration on the 26th inst. There was a large attendance, the church being well filled.

The exercises commenced by singing the 100th hymn, commencing:

"From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise."

Prayer was offered by Rev. Cornelius Asbury, who invoked the Divine blessing, and prayed that the colored people might appreciate the great blessings that had been conferred upon them, and not abuse the privilege of their new found freedom.

ADDRESS OF REV. STANFORD,

Rev. A. L. Stanford, of Philadelphia, delivered a Thanksgiving discourse. He said he proposed to speak from a ministerial standpoint, rather than a political one, as the ministerial was so much higher. It had been announced that he would speak on the Fifteenth Amendment jollification. He would not do so further than to view the matter from a ministerial standpoint. The subject selected was Genesis and Effect in the Kingdom of Grace and Providence, from the text Revelations, fourth chapter and part of the second and third verses—"Behold a throne set in Heaven, and one sat on the throne and he that is set upon the throne is to look upon like a Jasper and Sardina stone." He said there was an inseparable connection between cause and effect. Every effect was the natural result of a cause, but the great first cause was the power that ruled armies of Heaven and controlled the Universe—the Christian God, whose royal dignity, grandeur and power was beyond the comprehension of the mind of man. The tendencies or results of His powers were nowhere more evident than in the recent events of our national history.

After discussing the past and present condition of the negro at considerable length, and tracing the hand of Providence in our nation's history, the speaker concluded as follows: A few years ago we were a divided people, and had no rights that white men were bound to respect. We were neither spoken of Orang Outang or Monkey, and not men at all. At last our manhood was acknowledged. Slavery perished like the great monster. John talks about with ten horns on its head. The word horn was used in the sense of power to sell the children of Africa; the second horn was the manacles and chains, and Let the Creator's praise arise."

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ADDRESS OF REV. JOHN PECK.

The Bishop then introduced as the next speaker, Rev. John Peck, saying that he was one who had been for very many years engaged in this work, and who was competent to address them. Mr. Peck spoke as follows:

The Bishop has taken snap judgment. *I feel* however deeply interested in the events which have taken place among us. The subject that has long—*long* dwelt upon my mind. Many years ago I had the opportunity; *1857 almost killed me* [Laughter] when they inserted the word *never* in the Constitution of the State of Pennsylvania, and 1850 did the work completely with me. Renewed Laughter.] When the nation came to the conclusion, and the Congress of the United States had given constitutional liberty and had declared that the slaveholder might come to Pittsburgh and lay his hand upon me and my wife and children, and go and claim us as his chattels, and I dare not swear that I was his property, and what could my neighbors were obliged, if requested, to assist in carrying me back. I then came to the conclusion that the Almighty had almost given over the country to the company of the wicked, and one or two other, we came to the conclusion we would leave the country. We got over the ocean. Some of us bought land there with the purpose of moving, but the Almighty overruled it. We almost—I almost—I had almost without hope—almost without hope, but I love to say in the language of the apostle who has just taken his seat, that the Lord God Almighty reigneth, and from that fact, with the help of God, and with that God to encourage me had in him, that he was not only a prayer hearing but a prayer answering God. To this evening enjoy the privileges confided upon us by the fifteenth amendment. All honor to his name. [Applause.]

I felt this change as keenly, and perhaps more keenly than nine out of ten of this congregation, from the fact that in 1833 I cast my first vote in this State, and that vote was tattered and torn, will be trailed in the dust. There will be seen our glorious Union preserved and perpetuated by American citizens enjoying equal privileges. [Applause.]

ADDRESS BY REV. W. H. HUNTER.

Rev. W. H. Hunter, pastor of the Wylie street Church, was introduced and made a stirring address, urging in eloquent language the duty of the colored people to adhere to their principles of Christianity and endeavor to perform the duties of good citizens. After referring to the great results that had been accomplished in the few years past, he said one million of voters stood ready to reinforce the army of freedom, and one million loyal voters were at the disposal of progressive Christianity. [Cheers.] Let the voice of gladness be heard for that truly blessing—God, Grant and Liberty. [Applause.]

The meeting adjourned by singing the hymn commencing:

"Blow ye the trumpet, blow."

THE OIL REGIONS.

Petroleum Development in Pennsylvania

The Latest Strikes—Sale of Fifty Acres for $100,000—A Big Excitement Predicted—Operations at Tidioute and West Hickory.

F. W. Mitchell, Esq., of Rouseville, and Dr. C. A. Cooper, of Oil City, have bought an undivided half of the L. L. Shaw farm, near Rouseville, for $100,000. The farm contains fifty acres and at present is doing two hundred and fifty barrels of oil daily. It is worked almost entirely by the owners, and has seventeen producing wells on it. It is one of the best oil farms in Venango county.

The well of Thomas Chess & Co., in Franklin, near the Point, commenced pumping last week at the rate of one barrel of oil per day. Not being satisfied with this production, the tubing was withdrawn and the well torpedoed, and retubed, and on last Tuesday morning was pumping at the rate of eighteen barrels per day, of the best quality of lubricating oil. The well is two hundred and ninety feet deep, and has a very little feet thick, of petroleum sand rock. It is the opinion of operators that the yield will not materially decrease.

The Tionesta *Press* says: "It has been predicted and confidently believed by the lumbermen Parker, Pleasantville, Petroleum Center, Tidioute, Titusville, Oil City and other oil centers, and given credence to, too, by prominent and wealthy operators, that, during this year of our Lord 1870, the heaviest oil excitement in this or any other country will take place, and continue to increase into the year 1871, when it will go down never to rise again. The field of this great excitement is located around Enfenton."

The Oil City *Times* has the following late items: The Foggin & Coleman well No. 2, at Shamburg, was torpedoed on Friday last, and has increased from a nine to a fifty barrel well. Calahoose Run has a new well. It is owned by R. W. Evans, of Petroleum Center, and is pumping about eight barrels daily. A new well was struck on Cherrytree run, on Friday of last week. It is owned by I. J. Painter, and is pumping eight barrels per day. There is also a new well at Kane City, struck Tuesday last, and is now pumping twenty barrels daily. It is owned by J. W. Irwin and Captain Gibson, of Petroleum Center. The Collins well at Kane City, on the strike which we have already noticed, is still pumping a number of 100 barrels per day. Parsons & Brown's wells, at Red Hot, have been increasing in their production since the advent of summer. These wells, three in number, were producing during the winter months 25 barrels each. They are now rated at 75 barrels each. The Dorsey well No. 1 has increased from 6 to 12½ barrels. Foggins's big well, which one week ago was flowing from 200 to 300 barrels, has settled down to about 60.

The production in the Tidioute oil region continues undiminished. For the week ending April 14, the production at Tidioute was 7,209 barrels; shipments 14 709 barrels; in tank 42,287 barrels. The production in Triumph for the same period was 1,825 barrels; shipments 1,892 barrels; in tank 3,229 barrels. In the immediate vicinity of Tidioute there is not much change in the condition of the wells. The following items from West Hickory *Journal*: Beatty Farm: Shaw's farm, Foggin & Coleman's farm and others, Thompson & Co.'s well, producing 5 barrels, Beatty, No. 1, 12 barrels, Beatty No. 2, 12 barrels, Beatty, No. 3, 25 barrels, Beatty, No. 4, 12 barrels, Fisher, No. 1, 10 barrels, Goodrich 12 barrels. Total 76 barrels. On the Dorsey farm, Miles's Farm: This farm is owned by the Warren and Venango Oil Company, of Pittsburgh. The wells are among the largest in this district, and have fallen off considerably within the last sixty days. The first gushers or torpedoes has heretofore kept up the production, but of late they do not seem to help the production materially. No. 1, Smith & Co.'s well, producing 27 barrels; Collins Bros., 2 wells, producing 12 barrels; Irvington Oil Company, 2 wells, producing 11 barrels; Arminia well, producing 12 barrels; Widawald well, producing 4 barrels; Hoffman well, producing 4 barrels; Blocher well, producing 14 barrels. On the Boyal Dwyer farm: Tide Basin Co., owned by Scott, Grandin & Fisher. Dewey & Laney well, producing 7 barrels. Number of wells drilling 5. On the B. S. Scott lower farm, Thornburg well, producing 6 barrels, Goodrich well pumping 6 barrels. Harmony Oil Co. are moving the Irving Brothers' tract is a large and promising farm of 70 acres, and joins the New London, Christy and widow Morgan tract. The major portion of it lies on the belt and is almost certain territory. Dr. Shamburg bought of these g'' demen 20 acres and leased 30, on which he is now putting up a rig preparatory to drilling. On the Christy tract adjoining, Mr. Hague has a well down 400 feet. On the tract adjoining on the west, Dr. Shamburg is down 200 feet on the Michael Mc-Graw farm. On the New London tract Mr. Butler is down 500 feet.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BRADY'S BEND, PA., April 18, 1870.

The Attwood gusher well, situated two miles north of this, owned by Messrs. Jennings, Clarke, Morrison, Meidron and others, began pumping oil this morning, and is pumping yet still in it. By some means it took fire, and consumed everything combustible about the well. The building, derrick, &c., burned and had declared that the slaveholder might come to Pittsburgh and lay his hand upon me and my wife and children, and go and claim us as his chattels, and I dare not swear that I was his property, and what could my neighbors were obliged, if requested, to assist in carrying me back. I then came to the conclusion that the Almighty had almost given over the country to the company of the wicked, and one or two other, we came to the conclusion we would leave the country. We got over the ocean. Some of us bought land there with the purpose of moving, but the Almighty overruled it. We almost—I almost—I had almost without hope—almost without hope, but I love to say in the language of the apostle who has just taken his seat, that the Lord God Almighty reigneth, and from that fact, with the help of God, and with that God to encourage me had in him, that he was not only a prayer hearing but a prayer answering God. To this evening enjoy the privileges confided upon us by the fifteenth amendment. All honor to his name. [Applause.]

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The meeting adjourned by singing the hymn commencing:

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BRITISH AVARICE VERSUS AMERICAN INDUSTRY.

Rich Foreign Manufacturers Ready to Rush In.

A very suggestive letter has been published in the Sheffield *Daily Telegraph*, which should admonish all who desire the growth of American interests of the danger which awaits them should the advocates of Free Trade succeed in the ruin of American manufactures. This letter, dated New York, February 15, is written under the guidance and in the interest of British manufacturers, who are avowedly only awaiting the opportunity to rush in and avail themselves of the benefits to be derived in the destruction of American manufactures by the withdrawal of tariff protection. The writer sets out by saying that there never was a time when the merchants and manufacturers of Sheffield doing business with the United States were surrounded by more difficulties than at present, which he attributes to the "radical heads of Departments in Washington" having imbibed the idea that "Democratic New York" and Sheffield have "combined in one grand ring" to rob the government of a portion of its dues; this he attributes to the instigation of American manufacturers generally. Had the writer said that Mr. Boutwell is honestly collecting the dues the difficulties have been right. The writer admits that it is "the *interest* of these gentlemen to load Sheffield houses with all the duties and hindrances they can, and reap consolation from the fact that, with the Democratic party pledged to free trade as their election cry, and that owing to division among the tariff men themselves, "this session has seen the final effort of protection in Congress with any hope of success, and that in future sessions, bit by bit, or at one grand ugly rush, the whole system will be swept away. With gold declining," continues the writer, *"their protection in danger, and foreign manufacturers rich, skilled and ready to rush in at the first opening*, is it to be wondered at that the American manufacturers, with assets composed, in many cases, mainly of plant and building, paid for when it required twelve dollars in paper instead of six to buy one in gold—is it surprising, I say, *that these gentlemen are not unhappy if Sheffielders are in trouble?*

The writer then makes the startling assertion, which it will be well for the friends of American manufactures to give especial heed, that if gold goes to par and the tariff of 1869 is re-enacted, *"there are very few manufacturing concerns in this country that could avoid practical breaking up."* He says of the American manufacturers that, "as a rule," they have been too confident of the continuance of protection; *too obvious of the rising popular tide on that point*; too blind to the course of gold;" that the American manufacturers have not made money enough to compete with the Sheffield manufacturers, who, *"have been in the dawns, will not have wealthy corporations to meet*, as once was feared." In allusion to the steel trade, the writer adds: "While the firms in the steel trade have been doing good business, the houses engaged in the importation of table and pocket cutlery to their own stores in this city have, since the first of the year, been in difficulties. The Treasury Department had warnings that goods were being sold so low here as to argue evasion of duties by some, if not all importers; it is the direct interest of such importers to oppose the embarrass importers, but in this case it is not plain that the hindrance of business or even the imposition of more duties would cause the suspicion of evasion. The first goods on the Sheffield houses. "The competition," says the writer, "in pocket cutlery indeed, never was, even when gold was at its highest, a formidable deduction from the trade of Sheffield, and under the old gold duties, *would be less so more and more difficult for native companies to make money.*" After comparing the means of competion possessed by either side, the writer adds: "*If Sheffield manufacturers, especially the smaller and more unknown sort, could be persuaded to adopt the machinery and methods in use here, they might defy all the other conditions put together.*"

In reference to the manufacture of table knives the writer adds: "It is of no avail to hear it averred *that the American manufacturers have been losing money for years, and that many are in hard straits. They go on*, and almost absolutely monopolize the trade. *It is of* more use to know that, with gold at or under twenty per cent, Sheffield goods are very, very much cheaper than American, and that the Sheffield quality can be improved (!) and the prices of gold kept down, the day has come in which the Sheffield makers have a chance."

We have given the substance of this extraordinary letter, which truly represents the animus of the crusade against protection by the so-called free traders, who, in fact, are in reality the supporters of British special interests. Shall we allow such influences to govern us to the total destruction of American manufactures?

LOCAL POLITICS.

List of Candidates in the Field.

The canvass for the various offices to be filled at the October election, is beginning to warm up a little, and candidates are announcing themselves from day to day. We give below a list of such names as have been placed before the Republican voters:

For the State Senate—to which a candidate will be elected for the full term of three years—Hon. Thomas Howard will be a candidate, he having been chosen last fall to fill the unexpired term of Hon. Russel Errett. His competitor in the last canvass, George H. Anderson, Esq., has not formally announced such a gallant fight for him, and came so near placing him in nomination, will also be a candidate. The name of Hon. Miles S. Humphreys, to which has also been mentioned in several terms, is also mentioned in connection with Senatorial honors. Hon. D. N. White has also been named, but as his residence is "on the other side of the river," the latter's friends are anxious to return him as a member of the House, he will probably not be urged as a candidate for the Senate. The two natural divisions of the county have been observed, in choosing Senatorial representatives, and it would be a violation of a well settled rule to take any other course. The friends of Mr. White would perhaps be better satisfied to return him another term to the House, and have him succeed Senator Graham the year following.

For Assembly, all the members elected last year are candidates for renomination, namely Messrs. White, Humphreys, Walton, Taylor, Kerr and Millar. There will be numerous others, but we have heard of but one—Mr. David L. Fleming, member of Council from the Eighth ward.

For Prothonotary there are seven candidates, namely: Messrs. Jacob W. Walters, George H. Riddle, Alfred Hunt, Robert A. Herron, William H. Barker, Captain B. W. Cook, and William H. Glenn. The names of Major E. A. Montooth and Mr. Charles Jeremy have also been mentioned as possible candidates. Mr. Walters has received a "strong call," but he has to contend against the "rotation" principle, having filled the office two terms ago. Mr. Riddle will have considerable strength on the North side, especially in Allegheny. Mr. Ross has many warm friends in both, which would seem to have perfectly white to symbolize the Colonel's character. In his new clothes the great man looked hardly less imposing than the drum major who waved his baton wildly in the air and danced lightly up and down the room before Mr. Fisk to remind him of the dancing blondes from whom he was temporarily separated."

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company, it is reported, will soon abandon the New York and San Francisco, via Panama lines, for the reason that there will no longer be freights to say that the restrictive freight rates demanded by the Panama Railroad Company, and the completion of the Pacific Railroad, have ruined the business of traveling and sending freights by way of the Isthmus. So this immense institution which paid eight millions of dollars to its stockholders and built twelve million dollars worth of ships since 1848, is toppling to its fall. The Company are now petitioning to secure from Congress a grant of double their present subsidy between San Francisco, China and Japan, on condition that they double the service.

The Boston *Advertiser*, a Republican organ, in speaking of the newly acquired negro vote, expresses the hope that "the vote of the blacks will be considered in the light of a party and no section." The editor aptly adds that there is great danger to the republic from this massing of votes on the line of nationality. We hear too much of "the negro vote, the German vote, and now we are to have the negro vote. We protest in advance against extending the mischievous classification to the enfranchised blacks. It ought to be understood that voters are citizens, not as Irishmen, or negroes, or as or Frenchmen, or negroes, but as Americans."

Many people have been at a loss to account for the fact that Mr. Peck, Republican, was elected to Congress in the Tenth District of Ohio, to succeed Mr. Hoag, who was a Democrat—and he, too, by a majority of as large as 2,700. The Cincinnati *Enquirer* accounts for the result as follows:

How was this produced? Mr. Hill was an able and popular Democrat. No objection personally was urged against him on any hand. But in the Congressional Democratic body which he was defeated and torn, will be trailed in the dust. There will be seen our glorious Union preserved and perpetuated by American citizens enjoying equal privileges. [Applause.]

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The meeting adjourned by singing the hymn commencing:

"Blow ye the trumpet, blow."

FROM PITTSBURGH TO CHICAGO.

The Proposed New Railway by Way of Canton to the Lakes.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

It affords many of the readers of your worthy paper, residing in the rural districts of Ohio, more especially along the line of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway, a great pleasure and satisfaction each and every morning during the week (Sunday, as a matter of custom, always excepted), to peruse your daily. The subject of railway enterprise frequently finds a space in its columns, and an advocate by your pen. A short article, however, with *small* comments, appeared in its yesterday's number, as follows: "The Washington *Chronicle* says, that Mr. Garrett is building a railway from Pittsburgh to Chicago." The editor of the Commercial adds: "This is a pleasant piece of information, and decidedly new. Will the *Chronicle* state what is the route, and when this road will be completed?" As the *Chronicle* may not be advised of particulars, and has not the privilege and advantage of being located either the eastern or western terminus, or along the line of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, it may be proper for one being favored with that blessing along the line, at a local station, to tender to the Editor information and explanation of your inquiry. Permit it to be said, then, that Mr. Garrett but the people along *that* line, beginning on or near the west line of Allegheny county, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, are moving earnestly and determinedly in the construction of another and the second "outlet" for the great Birmingham of the United States, located at the junction or confluence of the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, in that county. The only difficulty in the way now seems to be the question, whether or not that great manufacturing and once commercial center, will grant the right of way, so as to connect with the western extremities of the Connellsville and Pittsburgh Railroad. This only line of interest, and the determination of the people in those several districts to have another line connecting them with the city, Pittsburgh, over which new line the Great Central Pennsylvania has no power, influence or control. As an evidence of that statement in the little city of Canton, with a population of about 12,000, on the 23d day of the present opening of the books for subscriptions of stock to the Pittsburgh, Canton and Chicago Railway Company, the sum of over three hundred thousand dollars was obtained, every dollar of which is A No. 1 in sum of $300,000 to $500,000. The contemplated road is to begin a short distance north of the Monongahela river, in your city, thence across that beautiful, quiet and serene river of same name; thence to a point at or near the northeast corner of Columbiana county, Ohio, on the west line of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; thence via Canton and New London to Tiffin; thence to Sandusky City, on the lake, having a saving of distance, between the latter place and your city, as compared with the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, of over forty miles. Stock sufficient can be obtained in this section of the country than four weeks to grade and bridge one road, passing through that part and backbone of Ohio, over the finest coal and mineral, agricultural counties, containing a very dense and enterprising population, composed of Germans, Scotch, Irish, Welsh, Yankees, Virginians, Pennsylvanians, French, German, Swiss, Hollanders, and other Continentalers. The foregoing may suffice to give you and your readers an idea of the beginning of the Pittsburgh, Canton and Chicago. The other branch of your inquiry, permit it to be answered in a few words, by saying that within two years, provided the "modern Birmingham" will not enjoin us from so doing in condemning a few acres of land, but the value of which there is no danger, provided the great Central Railroad of Pennsylvania will grant the slightest perhaps be polite and expedient for your City Council or the Canal Commissioners of your city to appoint a committee to wait on the proper officials of that company, and ask the favor and pleasure on the subject. In conclusion it may be proper to inquire whether the report that "the Washington *Chronicle* says, that Mr. Garrett is building a railway from Pittsburgh to Chicago," The editor of the Commercial adds: "This is a pleasant piece of information, and decidedly new. 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SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1870.

THE GERMANS AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

In a short paragraph in the *Pittsburger Volksblatt*, one day last week, a threat or warning was thrown out that before long there might be a secession of the Germans from the Republican party. We copied the paragraph and at the same time expressed incredulity as to the likelihood of any such secession on the grounds assigned by our contemporary. The *Leader* made the same paragraph the occasion of an article on the supposed attitude of the Germans towards the Republicans. In the *Freiheits Freund* of Tuesday the same subject is very satisfactorily discussed with reference to the *Leader's* comments. For the sake of their point and interest we quote a considerable portion of our intelligent neighbor's remarks, and are sure that they will be read with gratification by all good Republicans. After referring generally, and in not very flattering terms, to the charge of intended political apostacy and the Democratic conversion on the part of the Germans, the writer says:

"The grounds on which the *Leader* seeks to show the probability of the revolt of our countrymen from the Republican party are two, namely:

"1. Some ignorant American (Republicans?) feel a certain aversion towards a German, which finds expression in the saying: 'A negro is as good as a Dutchman.' 2. The Germans, like the Republicans, since the negroes have the right of suffrage, believe they can obtain the offices in the country, and may, therefore, increase the severity of the Sunday laws.' These are excellent reasons. Yet we have something to say on the other side:

"1. That among Americans of all parties even at the present day there are many people who are too uncultivated to justly estimate a foreign nationality, and who fancy themselves very witty while bandying about the words 'Dutchman' and 'nigger,' we do not doubt; yet it is a fact known to all that the born American employs such expressions much more offensive than the low class of Irishmen who in particular agree very well with the Germans. The Irish, however, as the *Leader* perhaps knows already, form the backbone of the Democratic party. If then, merely for the reasons that a few foolish individuals who happen to run along in the Republican crowd, cry 'Dutchman!' 'Dutchman!' the Germans chose to pass over to the Democratic party, that would be to fall from Scylla into Charybdis.

"2. A majority of the Germans have hitherto gone with the Republican party, not because they expected peculiar favor or reward from the same, but even because they are real Republicans, that is, because their views in regard to the questions most nearly touching the welfare of the country agree with those represented by our party. On the Sunday question the great majority of the Germans do not agree with the majority of Americans born in the land, no matter whether they are Democratic or Republicans. A similar difference in general history up to the present time be adopted by or Sunday has up to the present time been adopted, and by no party into its platform; the Germans will not in political elections leave this question out of view; and in this they will continue to do so long as no definite party makes the sharpening or strict execution of the Sabbath law, its programme.

"The Germans have gone with the Republican party because it has declared itself unconditionally in favor of slavery, for universal suffrage, the maintenance of the Union, the protection of home industry, and so forth and they have had no reason to repent, for with the progress of the Republican party the influence of the Germans also has increased. In the great Democratic cities of the North, Germans have also become more influence than in New York, the metropolis of Democracy; indeed there is no single Democratic city in which the German population has the same consideration or respect as in any one Republican city of equal size. We do not, however, deny that the native born Americans, a majority of whom belong to the Republican party, very readily recognize the worth of the German, and though also their views in many points differ from the latter, they nevertheless get on excellently with him.

"As for the rest, we can assure the *Leader* that when the German hears some clown on the street utter the word 'Dutchman,' the latter does not at once form on his political opinions as to a slight as the excitement felt to pass over into the heart, but rather he shows some excessively cunning Democrat promises him free land, the *Leader* will find few Germans in our county; men; he confuses them, as it seems, with a rabble, by a shower of epithets, and by a peculiar remark or by the setting of a beer glass can be made enthusiastic for any party whatever, the *Leader* is overlooking him acquainted with German would once try his luck as a stump speaker among our countrymen, he would, probably without experience and tavern jests is required to operate with conviction in the political theatre of the day.

Such a voice it is pleasant to hear! The position thus defined is not the sort of stronghold that Democratic politicians find it agreeable to assail, or easy to storm. While the Republican party shall remain true to the great principles upon which its ascendancy in the country rests, we confidently believe that the large majority of the Germans will form the firmest portion of its ranks. The subjects regarding which certain Democrats are assiduously endeavoring to excite alarm among the Germans, involve questions about which native Americans are also divided in opinion. Views on some of these matters offensive to many Germans may well be held on certain sections, but we do not believe that they would ever be adopted by the Republican party, even if the Germans stood neutral, and certainly they cannot be incorporated with the Republican platform, if the Germans continue in a position to oppose them from within.

"PITTSBURGH, VIRGINIA AND CHARLESTON RAILROAD."

It may with entire confidence be assumed that the determination reached at the meeting of the Directors of this Company, on Tuesday, that "the work on the road should be commenced as soon as practicable and pushed to speedy completion," possesses more than ordinary significance. And the clear and able statement of the Hon. JOSEPH WALTON, presents with great force the reasons for such determination and the grounds on which the Company propose to invite the co-operation of capitalists. It would hardly be possible to add anything to what Mr. WALTON has said touching the nature of the enterprise, the character of the country which the road will lay open, the relations it will hold to a vast net work of railways reaching to the seaboard, every considerable Southern city and the Gulf, or the importance of the road, when it is completed, to Pittsburgh. Concerning these features of the enterprise no intelligent man can have any sort of doubt. It is concerning the aid which the managers should receive so as to enable them in the shortest time, to commence and go through with the work, that we propose a say a single word.

Probably no community ever had greater motives set before them for putting their shoulder to the wheel than ours in this connection. The Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Road will connect us in half a dozen States between which and ourselves it will inevitably establish immediate and profitable business relations. Those States, now developing into a new career of prosperity, will be customers for everything we manufacture. Pittsburgh will be their nearest and best point, and they will be to us a new and in a large sense an exclusive field of trade. There will be no other city or place these half dozen States can reach so well as Pittsburgh, and the trade intercourse which will thus naturally spring up will be mutually advantageous. This road, moreover, will open a route from New York to New Orleans nearly or quite three hundred miles shorter than any existing route—a fact which suggests to the mind innumerable benefits, local and general. The road pierces extensive regions heretofore sealed up, rich in minerals, agriculture and forests which will be made directly tributary to our city. There are a thousand reasons why Pittsburgh should place the speedy construction of this Road beyond a contingency—and we believe she will. The determination evinced by the management, nothing daunted by the failure of State aid, to go ahead, is in the highest degree promising. The offer made by Mr. WALTON, who is a man of sagacity as well as energy, to "double the amount of stock hitherto proposed" to be taken by him, is a noble example. It should stimulate others to come forward in the spirit of enterprise and liberality. Capitalists and business men should regard this as a money-making opportunity, for it is nothing less.

WHAT THE SENATE HAS DONE WITH THE INCOME TAX.

[illegible] standing as to the action of the Senate on the Income Tax. A succinct statement of what the action of that body was, will therefore be of value at this moment.

The income tax is made up of the personal or general income tax, which, during 1869, amounted to about $25,000,000, and of the tax upon dividends, upon the interest paid upon corporate bonds, and upon the salaries of United States officers which united made up during 1869 about $9,000,000, making the whole income tax for the year somewhat over $34,000,000.

It is conceded that the general or personal income tax, assessed for the year ending 31st December, 1869, and payable during April, 1870, is the last tax that can be assessed and collected, unless the law is re-enacted.

But the Government officers alleged that the special tax of five per cent. upon dividends, corporate interest and upon United States official salaries, continue during 1870, and accordingly require the officers of all corporations to retain the five per cent. upon all dividends and interest paid by them after the 1st of January, 1870, and instructed the disbursing officers of the Government to retain it out of the monthly payment of salaries.

When the bill came up in the Senate the section which proposes to revive the general or personal income tax were withdrawn; and the collection of the tax during 1870, upon dividends, interest upon coupon bonds and upon salaries of United States officers, was legalized in order to prevent the embarrassment which would ensue from the litigation instituted by companies against United States officers for collecting the tax, and for the re-payment of it by the Government if declared illegal.

It was therefore only the tax upon these three special objects that was legalized by the action of the Senate, if concurred in by the House; and the general income tax has expired, and will not again be renewed, unless again re-enacted. Of that there is but little prospect.

TRANSFER OF POPULATION.

A few days ago we referred to the mighty change taking place in the South in consequence of the encouragement now given to emigration. In connection with this subject *it is interesting to notice* another change going on in the same region—a change which has not hitherto excited much attention in the North. This change is the transfer of the old population of the country, "from the east to the west bank of the Mississippi, and more particularly to Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas." Rather than expend their energies and capital in restoring to cultivation their worn out lands, great numbers of the wealthy class prefer to emigrate to the fresh fields and prairies of the country beyond the Mississippi. The places which they leave are occupied partly by negroes from the more Northern States, and partly by emigrants from Europe. A large proportion of the land thus abandoned by people in whose families it has been held since the first settlement of the country, will doubtless come into the possession of Germans. A movement of population at once like and unlike the transfer just described has long been in progress in the Middle States, and particularly in our own State. Thus the fertile valleys of Eastern and Central Pennsylvania once more or less imperfectly cultivated by farmers of the Scotch-Irish over the fence by the straps of his boots." The stock, have gradually passed into the hands of that sturdy and patient of labor, who delight in large barns and are content to live in small houses. By the transfer each race and the country generally have been benefited. In the new States of the West, whither the Scotch-Irish have mostly removed, the young generations have profited by the mistakes and neglects of their fathers, while the farms of Pennsylvania have been converted into gardens, and among their cultivators the spirit of progressive improvement is said to be stirring and to give promise of a not distant future, when their dwellings and their minds shall receive as much attention as their barns and their fields.

In parts of the country less fertile and less favored in climate than the fields of our own State or Virginia, no such happy results are produced by the migration of the original population. When they forsake the homes of their fathers for fields richer, more easily cultivated and blessed with longer summers and shorter winters, they do not readily find successors. Thus a distinguished clergyman of Massachusetts tells us of the rapid decrease of population in the hill towns of Berkshire county. And another clergyman, Dr. GALE, gives similar testimony in regard to other towns in Western Massachusetts. He says:

In the last four years we have traveled thousands of miles among the hill and mountain towns, treading their back roads and by-ways, wherever the remnant of a once prosperous population lingers. One is surprised at the indicate n of decay witnessed at almost every mile. For long distances there are no human habitations. You pass the wreck of once elegant mansions, of the foundations where they stood. Others are crumbling back to dust, the outside covering hardly keeping the elements from reaching their inmates. There are scanty remains of large and once fruitful orchards, now moss-grown and choked with underbrush. Occasionally, at the cross-roads, there may be seen a dilapidated school house, long since deserted by children and teacher; and many times we have traveled a half day without seeing a solitary human being, except as we entered a dwelling in a thinly tenanted but sadly neglected burial place, here and there. Is evidence that there once dwelt among the hills and mountains a more numerous population.

These once desolate regions are, of course, not desolate forever. They will be again filled with people as thrifty and industrious as those who expelled the savage and cleared the wilderness. But the more productive portions of the country must first be occupied.

PROBABLY Prince PIERRE BONAPARTE has not very many friends or admirers among the American people. There he is compelled to admit, we not think that there are very many citizens whose feelings would prompt them to treat him as a distinguished character. But there is a considerable number who regard the faction of which the *Marseillaise* newspaper is the organ and ROCHEFORT the head, with so much disgust that they may sometimes find it difficult not to sympathise a little with the men who are the peculiar objects of that faction's hatred. One may regard the BONAPARTES with no complacency, and yet fully believe that ROCHEFORT and his fellows are shallow pretenders, mischievous in their influence, evidently incapable of filling the posts to which they aspire, or of giving to France a better government than the one they are trying to destroy. A good deal has been said in this country about the acquittal of the Prince, and the theory of the event that seems to meet with most favor is the one which ascribes it to the direct and extraordinary interposition of the imperial house. for the rescue of a member of the imperial house.

There is another view of the subject which seems favored by the satisfaction with which the verdict has been received in some important centers, and by the quiet acquiescence with which it has been received generally in France. It is also recommended by the consideration that it does not assume the deep degradation of French justice, or the profound debasement of French character which the other takes for granted, and of which there is no sufficient evidence from other quarters. The view to which we refer is the one briefly stated in the COMMERCIAL some time ago, when news of the verdict was announced by the telegraph—and which is stated at greater length in the following extract from the Paris letter of M. F. GAILLARDET to the *Courrier des Etats-Unis*:

"I am convinced that every ordinary jury would have acquitted the author of the Auteuil murder, just as the High Court has done, for the mystery in which the deplorable affair is enveloped has not yet been cleared up by the examinations, and it would be the first time that a person accused did not at least receive the benefit of doubt, as the lawyers say, in the Latin quote Villemot. He also is convinced that the challenge addressed to Prince Pierre by Paschal Grousset when he learned of the challenge addressed by the Prince to Rochefort, fell like a thunderbolt beside the sword threatening the breast of the favorite of the Tuileries, and that, he could have said: *Nous nous chargeons d'offrir the Prince one of those insults* which can only be washed out in blood. Besides, M. de Fonvielle was appointed to protect the retreat with his revolver and his sword-cane.

As indication of the point of view from which this correspondent looks at the subject, we may add, that, in his opinion, all the persons engaged in the case, the accused, the accusers, the witnesses and the magistrates played a sorry part.

AMONG the telegraphic dispatches from over sea, published in our issue of yesterday, was one of those statements amazing in their, at least, apparent insignificance, with which the cable editor, if there be such a person, from time to time confounds the many millions who read his productions. Our editor is a very miscellaneous reader, and on last Friday he was interested in the fact that the "*Builder*," no doubt the last number issued, "contains an article on the recent Papal anathema against Free-masonry." He adds: "The writer refers to the vitality of the Masonic order both here and on the continent." Is [illegible] of wonder at the vitality of the order in spite of the Papal anathema? Or is he a Mason, and therefore full of disdain for the anathema in view of the vitality of the order? We incline to the latter hypothesis, and also suspect him to be the author of the production to which he directs attention. Since the subject of the Pope's curse of Free-masonry has been again made thus conspicuous, we may say that we learn from an authentic source, even from the report of M. VERUILLOT, the noted advocate of ultramontanism, that in a speech on the 4th of March, his Holiness, without reservation or exception, classed all the opponents of his infallibility among the Free-masons. This, we may suppose, was a polite way of telling them to understand a certain anathema as applicable to themselves as well as to the objectionable people upon whom it was originally pronounced.

THE most corrupt and shameless bill before the Legislature was the Border Raid Bill. The paternity of the measure should be known. It was concocted and owned by the MACKEY leaders, who, if the bill went through, were to receive great benefits. This is perfectly well known. With them it was the bill of the session. On its success they relied to mend their fortunes, which had become seriously impaired in the Treasurer contest. It would not be difficult to give such details of the plans which failed as would silence all doubt and place these gentlemen in a light before the public anything but enviable.

THOSE friends who have written us from different parts of the State, asking for the publication of the history of the Winnebago Indian Agency, wherein Mr. SIMON CAMERON figures, are assured that their wishes will in time be attended to. We are in possession of all that is necessary to a complete history of this passage in Mr. CAMERON'S life, drawn entirely from official sources, therefore wholly indisputable. The history will appear in due time, and will be followed by other passages in the Chief's life, which, like this, it is probable he prefers should be forgotten.

THE reports of a week ago which came to us from Havana and Madrid simultaneously that Gen. JORDAN had fled from Cuba and the revolution was crushed, turn out, as we supposed they would, wholly erroneous. The latest reports are of a far different character. JORDAN is not only still in Cuba, but has recently beaten the Spaniards in frequent contests. We readily infer, therefore, that the revolution is not only not crushed but it is as likely to crush the Spanish authority as to be crushed by it.

A LETTER dated San Francisco, April 9th, represents the times as very hard and business depressed. Indeed, actual distress and starvation is staring many of the laboring classes in the face. A project to convert Yerba Buena Cemetery into a park was undertaken partly for the purpose of giving employment and thus alleviating the distresses of the unemployed, when it was thought about four hundred laborers would apply for work; instead of that number less than fifty presented themselves, all of whom, of course, could not be employed. They marched in procession to the City Hall and threatened a demonstration on the Chinese quarter, which was with difficulty suppressed, as the outcry was for "bread or work." The excitement is not yet entirely abated.

A MAN in Chicago has invented a new propellor, with the screw in front, which the *Republican* compares to "a man lifting himself over the fence by the straps of his boots." The following is description of it: The shaft of the screw is connected, by means of gearing, with the cross-shaft of the paddle-wheels. Mast-ways are erected in the vessel, which being in motion turns the screw, and the paddle-wheels keep the screw in motion. The stopping of the boat is accomplished by a beautiful and ingenious arrangement for disconnecting the gearing between the paddle-wheels and the screw.

A NEW sect has arisen in Boston, who call themselves "Bible Christians," and who hold that they have a new insight into the Bible that none others before them have learned, and that Saturday is properly the Lord's day instead of Sunday. A converted Methodist minister is preaching to them, and a lady teacher in one of the public schools has resigned because her school is required to be open on Saturday, and she cannot, in accordance with her new belief, teach on that day. The new sect, in this particular, approximates towards Judaism.

Reports of the wonderful richness of new gold mines in New Mexico have been received at San Francisco. The ledges are from fifty to three hundred feet in width, and contain very rich quartz. The location of the mines is near the Sullitt Lledurff Mountain, in the Virginia District, fifteen miles west of Burr's Mountain. Tucson is said to be nearly deserted. Colonel Dunne, commanding at Fort Bowie, has established a post at the mines for the protection of the miners. Parties are leaving San Diego and Los Angeles for the new mines.

FREEHOLD BANKING AND BUILDING ASSOCIATION.

This is a Bank of Deposit, possessing all the advantages, rights and privileges enjoyed by any other in this city, and presenting NEW FEATURES that will be of advantage to the shareholder and nonshareholder.

People who place their money in such banks are mostly composed of hard-working men and women and minors, who, by laborious toil and strict economy, save small sums which they deposit as a nucleus for accumulating gains that in time will enable them to become the proud possessors of a home, and therefore it is of vital importance that they should be secured against the possible loss of their hard-earned treasure.

The Freehold Bank secures all the depositors by giving them, by act of the Legislature, a lien upon all the realty and mortgages owned by the Corporation, so that every one is safe, and protected from any and all contingencies that can possibly affect their deposits. No other bank in the city can offer by Legislative authority such security, and this alone is sufficient to induce thoughtful people to deposit in the Freehold Bank.

BUILDING ASSOCIATION.

This it is believed will ultimately be the great feature, for it is the least profitable business of the Bank. It is well known that in Pittsburgh our working people are not as a general thing provided with dwellings possessing the comforts and conveniences they are entitled to for the amount of rents paid.

The parties procuring this charter, in investigating the subject of Building Associations, found the general law under which they would have to operate objectionable, that special legislation must be had to enable successful operation. Believing that there would be a fair profit for the shareholder, and great advantage to those wanting neat and comfortable dwellings, at rates of rent which would be within the attractive to mechanics and others, a charter was procured, and the Legislature amplified and perfected the same, so the charter at the present time is the best in the State, and it will be hard for any subsequent one to improve on it. The plan is to build uniform rows of houses with all the conveniences and comforts of a home, and to small dwellings, say of five or seven rooms, the buildings to be neat in design and finish and creditable in every way.

Contractors and builders will contract to erect a row of uniform buildings for twenty per cent. less than a single house of the same kind. This alone will be a handsome profit. When the Association contracts with builders there will be a plan of the building house, showing the size of the lot, the number of rooms, &c., and after the Directors have determined to accept the contract the following rules will govern applications: First, Deposits will be supplied according to priority, and third, in case all are not disposed of, outsiders will have a chance. Parties desirous of securing a house will make money by depositing their funds, which will be earning interest instead of lying idle, and when they have improved ground, and when they have a sufficient sum to justify the purchase, they can then deal with the Association or take their money and buy elsewhere.

The foregoing advantages will certainly draw a large class of depositors to the Freehold Bank and the building feature. Only a few small shares of fifty dollars each have been set apart for artisans, workingmen and others of moderate means, and these will be given to any one in more than ten shares and not less than five. This course no doubt will gratify many who already feel the pleasures of accumulating money and would like to be stockholders in a bank and share in its profits.

We cannot see what else can be done for our working people, and Directors have certainly shown a liberal and commendable spirit.

INFALLIBILITY.

Its Gravity and Tremendous Consequences.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

This dogma having been declared by the grand Council, it follows that a large accession has been made to the number of the infallibles, not heretofore acknowledged as such, nor in the contemplation of the Council. For it is a conclusion which cannot be impugned, that whoever asserts the infallibility of another, asserts also his own. And on strict examination, in which no impediment to the bishop judge and decide the Pope to be infallible, they necessarily infer the infallibility of their own judgment. For if they are not incapable of error in matters touching faith, much more are they incapable of error in matters touching the [illegible] as we undertake to collect from spirits a tax of seventy cents a gallon, or anything near that, we had better divide it up into a hundred items, level in different forms, as now, so that we can have more chances than one for the collection, for even the first tax of fifty cents in one item offers too great means for corruption. To increase to a dollar we would bring the whole system to contempt by the speculation which caused it, and it would fall as utterly and disgracefully as the tax of two dollars.

WHILE people remote from the scenes of Indian warfare are expressing, in unequivocal terms, their indignation at the massacre, as termed by them the Piegan massacre, those in the immediate neighborhood of Indian territory take a decidedly opposite view. Their representatives, in the Houses of the latter, that their savage foe makes no discrimination of age, sex or condition in his incursions on frontier settlements. The savage breast is unrestrained by their generous appeals to Christianity—he watches his opportunities, and when his civilized neighbors are least prepared, is ready to pounce upon them with the ferocity and blood-thirstiness of a tiger. It is not strange, then, that the Western settlers should partake, to a certain extent, of the ferocity of their neighbors. Even now, the citizens of Wyoming Territory are forming bands to hunt the savage in his own haunts, and encounters have taken place. The Wyoming people fully sympathize with the Sheridan-Baker raid on the Piegans, and the people throughout the regions exposed to Indian depredations are holding meetings sustaining Col. Baker, on the principle of retaliation. Both sides are wrong.

THE Illinois State Convention has agreed to submit to the people an article to be voted upon separately, giving counties, towns and cities the power to vote aid to railroads and other corporations. With other provisions in the constitution sufficiently protecting the State and its revenues from any lien to pay either principal or interest of these railroad obligations, there was no serious objection to the article. Such a power is liable to be abused, and we suppose will be, after all, to see the article voted down by the people.

THE rivalry existing between Capt. Hall and Dr. Hayes in regard to the command of the contemplated North Pole expedition is likely to defeat the entire project. While the experience and capacity of the rival explorers are admitted, yet a "sober second thought" would justify congress in withholding, for the present, any appropriation for this purpose, in view of the little practical good that has heretofore resulted from enterprises of this kind, the vast disproportion of the end to the means necessary to be employed, and from the fact that the country, from one extremity to the other, is crying aloud for a reduction of national taxation.

THE FENIANS AND THEIR RAIDS.

The Red River Insurgents—Hubbub in the Dominion—Gen. O'Neill.

Gen. O'Neill recently declared that the Chicago Congress was a "Congress of politicians," while the Congress he has called to meet at New York will be "a Congress of fighting men." And truly, from the preparations apparently making, there is now no doubt that a Fenian demonstration on Canada is shortly to be made. This movement is not made independent of other considerations. It has evidently some connection with the Red River rebellion. The agents of the Fenian Brotherhood, it is mentioned, have some understanding with Ifiell, whose organ, the *New Nation*, declares that "England will have to fight twenty-five nations instead of one; and some of these nations are located on the line of march which has been settled upon for the Imperial troops —the Superior route by Lake of the Woods." It adds that "certainly the brave men on the borders of Dakota and Minnesota will rally to their assistance; the dreaded Fenian will be on hand ready to make the attack direct from our side, or the counter-invasion when Canada is depleted of troops." This denotes co-operation on the part of these hostile elements and a simultaneous movement, and that the Fenians will seek to reap advantage from quarter, while the Canadian troops are absent on another direction in pursuit of the Red River insurgents. This advantage will be further enhanced by the well-known sympathy of the French portion of the Dominion with the Red River revolutionists, which the Canadian papers in vain attempt by logical appeals to their loyalty to repress. That there are important preparations on foot is apparent in the making, there can be no doubt. The Chicago *Times* informs us that a number of gentlemen have resigned situations and asked for leave of absence from that city for an indefinite period of time; and a newspaper writer of that city, who has long been identified with the Fenian cause, has gone on a visit to his friends at New York. The Boston *Herald* of the 17th, in alluding to the shooting of small deer, says: "What does all this mean? Wherefore and for whom are these deadly missiles that choke the cannon's throat only to be hurled by engines of war into the ranks of some hostile foe?" It is said also that the Springfield rifles that remained after the late raid have all been converted into breech-loading weapons, and a large number of breech-loaders have been purchased from time to time, and that the number of this description of weapon will reach 20,000 stand of arms. The "sinews of war" will, if necessary, be placed at the disposal of Gen. O'Neill. A delegate from Pittsburgh is reported to have said: "I believe Gen. O'Neill to be an honest man. A man, sir, who means to do what he says; and let me tell you, sir, that I have in my pocket $2,000 which I will place in his hands at the *proper time*. Mind you, I want you to understand that I am not in the ranks of any one. The foregoing advantages will certainly draw a large class of depositors to the Freehold Bank and the building feature. Only a few small shares of fifty dollars each have been set apart for artisans, workingmen and others of moderate means, and these will be given to any one in more than ten shares and not less than five. This course no doubt will gratify many who already feel the pleasures of accumulating money and would like to be stockholders in a bank and share in its profits.

We cannot see what else can be done for our working people, and Directors have certainly shown a liberal and commendable spirit.

LEADEN WATER PIPES.

The use of leaden pipes as a conduit for the introduction of water from the street pipes into dwelling houses, has attracted the attention of the Board of Health, and the Board of Health, from the frequent cases of lead poisoning, paralysis and palsy occurring in that city, and Professor Chandler, the chemist of the Board, was directed to make an analysis of the Croton water drawn from this source. The result of the analysis proves the presence of lead in a given quantity of water, from minute particles to larger ones visible to the naked eye, according to the length of the leaden pipe, and the time the water has been in the pipe before drawn. The Board decided that the results indicated the source of many hitherto unaccountable cases of lead poisoning calculated to alarm the residents, and will lead them to adopt the precaution of allowing the water to run for a few minutes before drawing it for drinking or cooking purposes. This, it would seem, is the only preventive, as all the substitutes appointed for lead, are more objectionable, or indadequate to the purpose. As the report of the Board has given rise to considerable discussion, we deem it of importance to transfer the same to our columns, as it has a clear head, not only the health of New York, but of Pittsburgh and other cities where leaden pipes are almost universally used. A writer in the New York *Times* says that the only safe substitution of other metals. He says that leaden pipe has been in use over 500 years in England and elsewhere, and has therefore had a longer practical test than any other. It combines the necessary requisites of strength, durability, pliability, convenience, cheapness, and he adds, *health*. It is true that applied to water which possesses greater solvent properties, it is *unhealthy*, but it is not so in regard to the water ordinarily used for drinking. [illegible] 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 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command the importance of your enterprise. The following are the minerals known to exist in almost exhaustless quantities: Iron ore, of celled quality in veins of two, three, eight and six feet thick, all along the line to Pocahontas county, reached without shafting. Cannel coal is found in many localities. Fire and pottery clay and glass sand are found in many places. Iron ore is found in every county, and especially of superior richness and quality, in exhaustless beds, in the counties of Greenbriar, Allegheny, Monroe, and several others, the most of which would be opened and made available to Pittsburgh by your road. Besides reached by either of the termini, already indicated, are rich and extensive deposits of copper, lead, rock salt, and gypsum. And very fine limestone is found the extent of your entire line. The very heart of a rich and immense mineral region would be reached and opened by your road, a region in existence in which it has been said by a distinguished foreign traveler 'that in undeveloped wealth, in way of mineral resources, 'was equal to two-thirds of Continental Europe.

Sixth—Your connection to the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad would have connection with the great Arterial Railroad system of the South, by the most direct and shortest route, commanding a large portion of the staples in your carrying trade of the South, valued at 'when in 1860 amounted to two hundred and fifty-two millions, three hundred and sixty-six thousand, three hundred and twenty dollars ($252,366,320). Now, assuming that your road would be one-sixth of the whole trade, it would be $15,722,800. Then say, the local freights, live stock, lumber, mineral, various manufactured products of your section, would be sixty millions more, both aggregating seventy-five millions' worth of property carried on your road per annum. Upon warm, oak and vine, and the woodman's ax laid at the root of the vine, the whole is destroyed. She held that it would be more comfort to a man on a dying bed to leave an oak than one of these vines that don't know anything but how to twine.

She could not advise all young girls to learn to be cooks and chamber maids, because in that case the supply would soon be greater than the demand. Horace Greeley was right, is not voters that the country wants, but sixty thousand good cooks. Horace is a prophet, man. Suppose, the lecturer said, that she would educate her daughter for a cook; she would receive in New York $25 a month—$300 a year. That would not keep a woman of intellectual refinement. Such lack of the discernment signs of Providence in placing women in their different spheres—cooking for instance. She thought she could look about our steamboat would satisfy any one that Providence designed men for cooking. [Laughter.] Men were better cooks than the women, and did the work with more dispatch, being able to set a time and have the meal consumed by a woman. She then gave an account of how she was done by on a certain occasion at a lecture. But Horace Greeley wants sixty thousand cooks, and the lecturer thought it would be a good idea to have sixty thousand boys for him. She then told the girls that they wanted good health, and the fashions were unfavorable to it. Sickly persons almost always take sickly views of things, and fail. The question of health had been considered by the girls—and so far at it related to dress. Ordinarily, a girl of fourteen is a bundle of affectation, and a hypocrite when she comes to put on the trail dress and is taken to the dressmaker to have her waist "shaped," as it is the style. She became moody. It is seen every day. It is wondered at, in the world, that girls of fourteen should be moody, when they should manifest new power, vigor and enthusiasm. She then proceeded to state the unfavorable effects of lacing and contracting of portions of the body, and remarked that long dresses were unhealthy for young girls, because they prevented free motion. They wanted them not to come down below the bootstops. The remarks on dress, health and dress could be seen at a glance by tracing a short analogy between a woman's health, and girls could have the same if they would. She wondered why so many girls of the nineteenth century derived their shape. Some would assert that their wasp-like waists were natural, and did not require lacing to produce them such, leaving one to infer that God had inspired her with fashionable notions. She did not want to interfere with God's workings, but she would like to see women wear their dresses with the waist over their shoulders, in order that she might see what part God filled with the internals.

She had once been asked if she thought that girls could stand a collegiate education, and she had replied that she thought they could stand more than boys. Said she: Take one thousand boys and one thousand girls and send them to universities, lace them up as tight as drums; put boots on them with heels two or three inches high, pantaloons, and stick ten thousand hair pins into their heads, and turn them loose, and then say 'let us die or deliver us from this dreadful infliction.' We could only account for the girls enduring it from the fact that perhaps they had the idea that it was a disguise to suppress upon the minds of the girls the necessity for assisting in the family work. Dress was a close, short, and not have to change dresses when desiring to go out and walk for two chances to one before the dress was changed. A reconsideration would take effect and the walk would be missed. She had sometimes heard to say that walking don't agree with them. Girls were beating the pavement in high heeled boots, and lacing themselves until they can hardly breathe. When young she had only been allowed to walk two or three miles before breakfast; wore boots like her father's, did not lace any and as a result she lives a life of uninterrupted health and vigor. A sound body to the mind is like a foundation to the house. Women thought nothing like the ridicule of man, and the lecturer thought it time some one talked and lectured about girls. For many years the talk had been on nothing but boys. When she thought of preparing her lecture on girls, she asked her daughters to ask the would say of them. They said that she should talk of them in the same manner as she would talk of her daughter. Dissatisfied with what she had heard, she lectured on the follies of fashion, dress, &c., and the other things that they should be taught the importance of learning a trade or profession, in order that they might support themselves. She had intended to divided her lecture into these two branches, and would wind up as she always did, about the girls of the future having a right to vote.

She wanted girls to regard themselves not as an adjunct, merely to add to something else, but as nouns. She would have them regard themselves as the independent creative beings she considered them. She said there was a theory extant that if required strong arms to carry woman safely until they arrived at the other side of Jordan, but the facts did not agree with this theory, and she cited many instances where women had intelligence and moral power sufficient to go through life without the assistance of man. She said that she really felt sorry for the woman, who, when the father dies, can be a father to the children, and what an encomium could a man have when dying, than to know that he was leaving a wife who could manage a fortune, if such an heritage was left her, and so regulate her affairs as to take the place of the oak in Washington Irving's reference to beautiful women, of which the world had been hearing for the last twenty-five years, namely, that a man and woman were like the oak and vine, and the woodman's ax laid at the root of the vine, and the whole is destroyed. She held that it would be more comfort to a man on a dying bed to leave an oak than one of these vines that don't know anything but how to twine.

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Weekly Commercial.

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1870.

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And relies on their support and good opinion rather than the favors of politicians. Nor has it done so in vain. Its independent course—more especially in denouncing legislative corruption and exposing the practices of thieves in office—has made it the favorite of the masses and the feared of dishonest aspirants and debauched party leaders. Of the reputation it has earned in this respect it is sincerely proud; and it wishes no other claim to the confidence, money, *but always in a* REGISTERED *letter*. The registration fee has been reduced to *fifteen cents*, and the present registration system has been found by the postal authorities to be virtually an absolute protection against losses by mail. *All* Postmasters are obliged to register letters whenever requested to do so.

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THE PHILOSOPHY OF BOLTING.

Bolting is a modern term, used to describe the action of party men who do not abide the decision of the caucus or convention. The political signification of the word is new and special, but the political conduct which it describes presents no new phase in party politics. Nearly the entire membership of the old Federal party "bolted" that organization. The Congressional caucus nomination for the Presidency, in 1824, was "bolted" by four-fifths of the people. The Whig party was "bolted" out of existence in a single year, and replaced by the Republican party. The Democratic nomination in 1860 was "bolted," and that party has never recovered, and never will recover from the consequences of that "bolt." Every party in existence, or that has had existence, has experienced the "bolt," and it has extended to nominations for every office, from that of President of the United States to that of township constable.

There is a philosophy in "bolting." Politically speaking, the springs of action with individuals may be self interest, disappointed ambition, or something worse. But masses of people are not moved by bad motives. What we call public opinion is a sentiment or judgment common to large numbers, with nothing individual about it. It results from general discussion and reflection; from the comparison of many opinions, by many individuals, and the adoption of what may appear to be sound and good, however suggested or evolved. Generally slow in formation and proceeding on solid grounds, it loses as it advances, whatever of the character of personality it originally had and, becomes as abstract as the written law. This sort of public opinion is necessarily always honest, and is aptly and truly described by the maxim, "*Vox populi est vox Dei.*"

In matters of politics and political management "bolting" is only a form of expression of public opinion. It is the great remedy for the correction of political abuses, just as its counterpart, "packing," has been and still is the great agency by which reforms have been and are being accomplished. People do not bolt what is pure and good either in politics or church. In this age of the world, and especially in this country, the degenerate party in politics and the degenerate church cannot long, by means of political or ecclesiastical excommunication, shield themselves from the purifying influences of the "bolt." But the "bolt" is rare and exceptional, for the reason that the operation of the causes which sometimes produce it generally results in the reformation of the abuses complained of. Cure a diseased limb if you can (and most diseases, human and political, are curable). If you cannot, and there be danger that the disease may spread and involve other parts of the body, cut it off. Politically speaking, the "bolt" combines the resources both of medicine and surgery.

A word to Republicans. The principles which constitute the platform of our party are founded on justice and equality of political rights. They have been adopted and are now embraced by a majority of the people of the United States. We do not doubt that they will endure as long as free government itself endures. The party, too, represents the intelligence, honesty and patriotism of the country. Its record is glorious and imperishable. The public men who have represented the Republican party for the last ten years, have had, with few exceptions, the public confidence and deserved it. In no age of the world, in no country, has statesmanship been put to severer trial than during the last ten years in this country. In no age of the world, in no country has it accomplished more in the permanent interests of freedom and human rights. But our noble ship, tossed by a thousand tempests, has returned to port much out of repair. Her machinery, long on the strain, has become weakened, and she has shipped too many seamen who do not serve for love of country. She wants more propelling power and better direction. She wants a better crew. The National Administration has the public confidence, so has the State Administration. But another General Assembly as bad as any of those of '67, '68, '69 or '70 will place our party in a minority in Pennsylvania. We want radical reforms which can be accomplished only by a Constitutional Convention. But for the present, we want better men in office, and a better mode of selecting them as candidates. If a nomination has been bought or secured by trickery and fraud, let it be repudiated and exposed. The pretended Republican who stuffs ballot-boxes at primary meetings—who packs conventions with delegates not elected—who counts candidates into nomination by false marks, who buys votes for ready cash, etc., however zealous, vigilant and active in the campaign, is not wanted in the Republican ranks. Every successful party, however, has many such. Having no honesty themselves, they do not believe in public virtue. What honest people call dishonesty, fraud and forgery, they call political "management," "shrewdness," "wire pulling," "slate making," "putting through," etc. Of course the politician of this class always claims to be *extremely radical*, acting on the principle of the man who, conscious of his own shortcoming in the way of honesty, makes up for the deficiency by very loud professions of it.

We call on the Republican masses to come out in their power and make their own nominations. Come out and put to flight the vultures who are preying on the living body of your party. Reform the organization, and take it into your own hands while it has life and vigor. Use medicine while medicine has virtue; and resort to surgery only as a last resource. We have had warning, and it will be wise to heed it. Today there is a cloud in the political heavens, not larger than a man's hand; tomorrow we may hear the muttering of distant thunder. To-day the cry is, Republicans to the rescue of your organization. To-morrow it may be, "To your tents, O Israel." Do not wait until the hand is seen writing on the wall, we shudder to say what. "Bolt" all and every "political manager," "manipulator" and "wire puller." Restore something of the political integrity which made LINCOLN President, and which his death hallowed. Give General GRANT the moral and political support of fit nominations, honestly made and willingly and zealously ratified by the people. This done and continued, we will carry victory on our standards down to the end of the century.

LAW OF MARRIAGE IN PENNSYLVANIA.

WILKIE COLLINS, in his skilfully constructed and intensely dramatic story called "Man and Wife," now in course of publication in *Harper's Weekly*, brings prominently into public view an odious and restrictive statute in Ireland and the Scottish law, regulating the whole subject of marriage. Twenty years ago DICKENS exposed the ignorance and dreary tyranny of the English school, and the misery and cruelty of the English Workhouse. CHARLES READE has laid bare the dreadful wrongs and horrors of the English private mad house, and of the English county prisons of a later day. NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and OLIVER TWIST, "Hard Cash" and "Never too Late to Mend," have pleaded more eloquently and more successfully in the interests of humanity and reform than the excellent WILBERFORCE in his most earnest efforts, and the philanthropic HOWARD by his deeds of noble charity. If the modern novel has sometimes scattered broadcast the seeds of moral disease, it cannot be denied that it has also often brought healing on its wings for great social and political disorders.

WILKIE COLLINS is making a very interesting book. He deals in the solidly real, rather than the ideal. His style is altogether narrative—there is nothing of the air of romance in the story he tells. It is a probable story; it might be a real history. Excepting names and "rounding incidents," the writer probably relates actual occurrences—if fictitious, the verisimilitude is perfect. If Mr. COLLINS be imaginative at all, his imagination takes no lofty flight. His genius is dramatic, and no writer of the century has equaled him in the power of so presenting ordinary facts and incidents as to excite the sensibilities and arouse the passions of his readers.

The author of "Man and Wife" has two ulterior objects sufficiently developed already in the published chapters of his yet unfinished work. The one is to call the attention of the British public to the existence of that hateful, tyrannical Irish statute which rendered ANNE SYLVESTER'S mother's marriage null and void, because, herself being a Catholic, the man she took for her husband and who took her for his wife had not at the time of the marriage ceremony been a Catholic for more than thirty days. The other is to expose what Mr. COLLINS evidently regards as the distressing uncertainty or barbarous laxity of the Scotch law of marriage, under which ARNOLD BRINKWORTH and ANNE SYLVESTER neither wishing nor intending to marry the other, were innocently placed in such circumstances that Scotch lawyers could not agree as to whether the law would regard them as man and wife.

The civilized world owes the distinguished author a debt of gratitude for dragging out of darkness into the light of day, the hateful and inliquitous Irish anomaly which still disgraces the British statute book. He has rendered a substantial service in the interest of justice, morality and religion.

But the case he makes against the Scotch law is not, by any means, so clear and strong. Under the law of Scotland, marriage is a civil contract merely, without legal restrictions of any character. *Consensus facit matrimonium.* Consent makes marriage. The parties must be *able* to contract—that is to say, must be free from personal disabilities, such as idiocy, lunacy, childhood, or actual existing marriage. They must be *willing* to marry each other and must *intend* to marry. The purpose to marry each other must be carried into effect—they must *actually* marry. No form of words is necessary. The contract need not be in writing. The presence of priest or preacher, of judge or magistrate is not indispensable. Banns need not be published; no license is wanted; no record need be made. *Marriage has no sacred nor even* solemn legal character in Scotland. It is a civil contract merely and simply, differing in no material respect from other civil contracts, except that it is indissoluble by the act of the parties. Such is, too, the law of Pennsylvania to-day; such has always been the law of Pennsylvania. The various denominations of Christians have their own regulations governing the subject. One branch of the church declares marriage to be a sacrament; others, perhaps all, surround it with solemn observances. The law permits and respects these regulations and the practice of these ceremonies, but does not recognize them as having any binding force. Neither Scotch nor Pennsylvania law will infer marriage from mere co-habitation, because actual, executed consent constitutes the relation. But actual, executed intention, however proven, makes marriage both in Scotland and Pennsylvania.

Now Mr. WILKIE COLLINS labors to show that the Scotch law of marriage (which is identical with the Pennsylvania law) sets traps for innocent persons, who do not intend to marry. But the case he puts does not prove it. A lady went to the Craig Fernie Inn, declaring herself to be a married woman, and expecting her husband to meet her there. A man came to the Inn on the evening of the same day, represented himself to be the husband of the lady, addressed her as his wife in the presence of the landlady and servants, supped with her privately and remained over night at the Inn, the two occupying adjoining and communicating apartments. They were not man and wife, and did not mean to become such. They were persons of respectable character, and their intentions as respected each other were pure and honest. But the gentleman, to serve a friend and protect the lady, assumed a false character, and the lady herself remained silent when truth required her to speak. This was no marriage under the Scotch law; but the parties, by the false declarations of both, and by the deception practiced by one, and the assenting silence of the other, had made *evidence of* marriage against themselves. This evidence might or might not be regarded by Scotch lawyers, and Pennsylvania lawyers too, as establishing a *prima facie* case of marriage. In the strongest view of it as against the parties, the burden was on them to show that they were not married. The question, which the case presents, is not one of the law of marriage—it is a question of the weight of evidence merely, in reference to which, lawyers as well as jurors might differ. The laws of all civilized countries presume that sane persons contemplate the consequences of their own acts, and that their declarations against their own interests are presumptively true. The Scotch law of marriage set no trap for the parties who met at the Craig Fernie Inn; but their own imprudence, the misrepresentations of both as to their true positions, and the double treachery of a third person who was the pretended friend of one and the affianced husband of the other, led them into a labyrinth of troubles. This is the whole case, and the author might, with the same reason, declaim against the general law of contracts, because it does not insure against the consequences of one's own imprudence, deception, or folly, or the dishonesty or treachery of others.

If WILKIE COLLINS would direct his attention to the operation of the English laws regulating marriage and inquire how many innocent women have been betrayed into mock marriages, under forced licenses with ceremonies performed by villains who personated priests; how many persons in England are living in a state of legal concubinage for want of compliance with the onerous and expensive restrictions which English laws impose, he might possibly be induced to look with more charity upon the marriage laws of a country where mock marriages are impossible and concubinage is almost unknown. He might find crimes to expose and dreadful social evils, traceable, in part, to unnecessary and unwise restriction of the right to marry—a work for which he has both the heart and genius.

ECONOMICAL AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE SOUTH.

In times of revolution men live fast, a truth often verified in the past, but never more obviously or impressively than in our own country during the last few years. Every one who ever visited the slave States in the days before the war remembers with what complacency many, perhaps most of the land owners regarded their economical system, how admirably they thought it adjusted so as to produce a lofty-minded dominant class capable of asserting their right to rule, while the toil and drudgery essential to a civilized state was undergone by a class who were cared for and subsisted by their superiors, and whose sole practical concern was to do what they were told to do. One also remembers with what contempt, real or affected, these proprietors regarded the labor system of the North. In no unkind spirit we recall these Southern views. All who care to know may now learn on indisputable evidence that the farmers of the South are fast coming to own how false were the notions which they used to entertain on these subjects. We are told that it is quite common among them now to acknowledge that slavery was a gigantic economical blunder. But even those who are not yet prepared to make this admission, are adapting themselves to the new conditions introduced by the abolition of slavery. Surrounded by negroes, their former slaves invested with the privileges of freemen, unknown in the prestige of ownership and uncontrolled by the provisions and restrictions of a slave code, the proprietors saw that these men must be employed or that they would be dangerous. Of course, too, they must be employed on terms somewhat satisfactory to themselves. Had the demands of these freedmen taken on the form of unreasonable exactions, there would have been nothing surprising in the fact. Really, the good sense and the kindly spirit of the African have been manifest in the moderation of their desires. All that they wished for has been accordant with the interest of the proprietors. To become the owner by purchase of a piece of land, or by a lease to become a master cultivator with laborers under him, these have been the highest of the freedmen's wishes, and the large proprietors have very generally found it to their advantage, as it is certainly their safety to gratify them.

Another illustration of the wonderful change of mind which has passed over the South is the encouragement now given to immigration from the North and from Europe. One evident cause of this patronage of immigration by people who formerly abhorred and did what they could to prevent it has been the necessity of competition. With property to sell, and only or chiefly negroes to bid for it, the advantage to the owners of providing rivals for its possession was obvious. Such competitors would certainly be furnished whenever the tide of immigration should begin to flow towards the South. No doubt also the additional safety secured by a large white population has been a strong reason for the adoption of this new policy. Hence the Southern Press now advocates it with force and intelligence. In several of the States bureaus of immigration have been established. Agents for its promotion are laboring in the Northern cities and in Europe. Large German colonies have formed settlements in different parts of the South. And it is said that as many as fifty-three thousand emigrants, white and black, have passed through Memphis in the last five months, for the Southwest, many of them freshly arrived foreigners. Such facts indicate how rapidly the social and economical revolution of the South is going on, and afford promise of a completely new condition of things before many years in that once slave-blighted land.

MR. LINCOLN'S RELIGION.

Mr. W. H. HERNDON is apparently fond of being talked about. Rather he likes to create a sensation. He had not been heard of outside of his village, or county, a few years ago. But he had for a while been Mr. LINCOLN'S partner in the practice of the law, and by publishing a romantic narrative of a love adventure, in which the lately deceased President, when a very young man, had been engaged, Mr. HERNDON became suddenly and extensively famous. We have seen a German version, or rather an elaboration of this story, published in Leipsic, in which due credit was given him as the author of a statement from which it appeared that Mr. LINCOLN had never loved the woman whom he finally married and who is known to the world as his widow. One such fact is sufficient to illustrate Mr. HERNDON'S character. We need hardly say that no man of strong head and sound heart, sensitive to the rights and feelings of others, *could* have given such a story to the world at the time. But Mr. HERNDON is not satisfied with the fame he thus acquired. He has not yet made enough of notoriety for himself out of the interest taken by the world in his former partner. To Mr. FRANK ABBOTT'S free religious or infidel paper, the *Index*, published in Toledo, he has lately addressed a communication intended to correct the now prevalent notion as to the great President's religious views. According to this statement, Mr. LINCOLN was always a free-thinker, at one time so interested in the subject as to write a little book on infidelity, which a friend, fearing injury to his popularity, snatched from his hand and flung into the fire. In detail, he regarded the scriptural doctrine of repentance as mischievous, and rejected the entire revelation of GOD in CHRIST as presented in the Bible. He was a deist, or theist, as we now understand the word. Finally Mr. HERNDON is very indignant, "mortified, if not angry, to see Mr. LINCOLN made a hypocrite," as he is made in Dr. HOLLAND'S Life of him. Such is the purport of what this small Illinois lawyer has to say about his quondam partner's creed. While we may not doubt that he tries to tell the truth, the statement itself is a jumble of propositions which, viewed as a confession of faith, refutes itself. Mr. HERNDON is evidently a man fond of talking about religious questions, though evidently incapable of thinking deeply or even earnestly about them. He is probably a specimen of the class so common at the present day, who, in consequence of their own religious unrest, are perpetually trombling themselves about the religious convictions of others. Such a man would, of course, endeavor to find out his partner's notions on religious subjects. In those early days there is no reason to believe that Mr. LINCOLN had arrived at clear and well defined views about them. He was probably, on Mr. H.'s testimony, we may say that he was certainly skeptical. But there is abundant evidence that even then he was deeply thoughtful, and desirous to believe, though his doubts were greater than his faith. And this is not the state of mind implied by Mr. HERNDON'S statement. We may be sure that a man so logical as Mr. LINCOLN would never have owned to so crude an agglomeration of propositions as a confession of his faith. And then we know that the time came when in the presence of the tremendous realities of his trying position, and of the clearly seen beneficent results of practical Christianity, many of his difficulties vanished; his mind expanded to the comprehension of truths before which small contradictions and petty quibbles disappear, and though doubts likely still remained, his faith was greater than his doubts. Mr. LINCOLN was above hypocrisy. Hence, when on several occasions he asked devout people to pray for him; when in conversation with clergymen, he owned that under his crushing responsibilities he found comfort and support in prayer; when on a public occasion he thanked GOD for the churches, justice to his memory forbids us to believe that he was acting the part of a poor pretender. Indeed, we are sure that a careful examination of Mr. LINCOLN'S speeches made during the last ten years of his life would afford evidence completely satisfactory that he desired to be considered as in entire sympathy with those of his countrymen who recognize in the religion of the New Testament the foundation and vital element of our civilization. This was the spirit of his messages, proclamations and public addresses—and his private letters, published since his death, are of the same tenor. Here, for instance, is an extract from a letter addressed by him September 4, 1864, to MRS. ELIZABETH B. GURNEY, an esteemed member of the Society of Friends:

> In all it has been your purpose to strengthen my reliance upon God. I am much indebted to the good Christian people of the country for their constant prayers and consolations, and to no one of them more than to yourself. The purposes of the Almighty are perfect and must prevail, though we erring mortals may fail to accurately perceive them in advance. We hoped for a termination of this terrible war long before this, but instead it has been augmented and rendered more costly and bloody, with the rolling years. We shall yet acknowledge His wisdom and our own errors therein. Meanwhile, we must work earnestly in the light we have, and leave consequences. Material aid still conduces to the great ends He ordains. Surely the Christian world will not fail to relieve the suffering and destitution, which no mortal could make and no mortal can fully relieve. Let us pray that both may be supplied from the fullness of the resources which God has placed within our reach. Recently, in copying for a friend a verse of Scripture which touched my own heart, and believing it, I shall still receive for our nation and myself your earnest prayers to our Father in heaven.

Whatever opinions Mr. LINCOLN may at one time have held on the subject of religion we do not doubt that during the last few years of his life he lived and acted under the influence of christian principles and motives. Always sad, thoughtful, earnest, first on his arrival in Washington he found himself in a position to call into requisition all the great qualities of his nature, in action not for himself but for others, for millions, for a nation, and then probably he first fully felt his need of those sources of strength to be found only in religion.

That Mr. LINCOLN was ever a brawling, scoffing infidel as Mr. HERNDON represents him to have been, we find it hard to believe. A fact so certain to damage him as a candidate for the Presidency would have been proclaimed at the time, and from the silence of his political opponents on the subject we may confidently infer that he was not vulnerable. Skeptical opinions he may often have expressed in private, either in concession to his partner, or in the way of mere speculation. Probably he may have been heard in those same early days defending slavery, or the privileges of freemen, under the constitution as it then stood. Some distinguished men who seemed to be quite forgotten whenever the doctor happened to be present. At least such things were said. Admiration had become a monopoly with the illustrious traveler. Should he ever get to the great city again, society will be hardly tolerable to some of the scientific lions.

THE reports put afloat from Washington that Mr. HOAR will early go out of the Cabinet and that a Pennsylvanian will take his place, may possibly have created in the minds of some, speculation concerning whom the Pennsylvanian could be. When we say that these reports form a part of the tactics whereby Senator CAMERON is striving to put Mr. HOAR out and WAYNE MCVEIGH, CAMERON'S son-in-law, into the Cabinet, it is probable that little need be added. It is not unlikely that Mr. HOAR may go out, not, however, at Mr. CAMERON'S bidding; but we greatly question the probability that Mr. MCVEIGH will ever go into General GRANT'S Cabinet. In the first place, he has not a single qualification for the position, and the selection of him would be both ridiculous and injurious. At best Mr. MCVEIGH is but a fourth rate lawyer, and, we believe, without practice. As a commissioner to revise the civil code of the State, he failed utterly, and, after drawing pay for three years, resigned, leaving the work to be performed by his associates. Probably there is not a subordinate in the Department at Washington, who is not better qualified, morally and intellectually, than MCVEIGH to perform the duties of Attorney General. We have no apprehension that CAMERON will be able to carry this point, but we are concerned that such slanders should continually be put on the President. The good name of an administration, like the good name of an individual, will eventually suffer from reports, however groundless in fact, which associate it with disreputable characters. Of course CAMERON wants to place MCVEIGH in the Cabinet for objects consistent with his whole public life, commencing with the Winnebago affair. When General GRANT permits such a scheme to succeed—as he certainly never will—the confidence of the nation will be withdrawn from his administration. There are Pennsylvanians who would fill Mr. HOAR'S place with credit, but WAYNE MCVEIGH is not on the list; and even to propose his name is a piece of shameless presumption.

MANY years of exciting controversy do not commonly leave the minds of the antagonists in a condition of cool impartiality. By whatever motives patronage or protection may be prompted, one effect of patronage or protection is well known to be a kindly feeling towards its object—and dislike of an object is apt to increase with the duration of hostility or opposition. For these reasons it may be that neither the Republican nor the so-called Democrat is well qualified at present to exercise a strictly judicial spirit towards our colored fellow citizens. Some bias is certainly possible in each of these battle-scarred contestants, as the natural result of so prolonged and earnest a conflict, and hence where the new voters are concerned the interest that may sometimes attach to the judgment of the "impartial foreigner." In the *Courrier des Etats-Unis* of the 16th inst., there is a brief account of the celebration of the passage of the Fifteenth Amendment by the colored people of New York city. The Frenchman affirms that "notwithstanding the refusal of the Chiefs of the Metropolitan Police to furnish an escort,"

> "The *fete*, favored by magnificent weather, passed off in the greatest order, and it is just to say that, far from hiding the grotesque, which in many persons anticipated, the dedking of the procession, having set out at the Brook from the intersection of Eighth street and the Fifth avenue, with cold bidina and bellona on horseback, at the head, followed then a long succession of negroes, on foot, on horseback, in carriages superbly decorated and driven by each, by fou., eight and twelve horses, not to mention the allegorical cars, in one of which were seen one hundred and fifty little negroes, pupils of the public schools, dressed in white and blue, and singing at intervals hymns suitable to the day, while in another car were seen a considerable number of aged persons, both sexes, all eighty years old at least, former slaves, gathered from all parts of the city and on the occasion; this procession, we say, had something imposing, and could advantageously sustain comparison with the one organized every year in honor of the patron Saint of Ireland."

Another comment of the impartial foreigner is also worthy of attention. He says:

> "The crowd in the streets was great, and generally rather kindly disposed than hostile. Nevertheless we heard a few grumblings proceed from a group of politicians, grumblings of which we presently had the explanation; they were directed against a banner bearing this inscription: 'Our vote will never be for sale.'"

SENATOR WILSON has always ranked among the foremost of our public men who maintain their connection with the people and know their wishes. It was his knowledge that prompted him to say in the Senate on Wednesday, that "the country was rapidly coming to the opinion that Congress was too slow for the transaction of public business." He might have said with entire truth that the country had already come to such an opinion, and is quite disposed to manifest its displeasure, unless an amendment takes place. We have reason to know that General GRANT indorses Senator WILSON'S view, and is growing solicitous for the consequences. The Senate needs to be made to understand the truth of the Massachusetts Senator's remark. Of late that body has not grown in the good opinion of the nation. The frequent and not always successful attempts it has made to arrogate to itself powers not heretofore supposed to belong to it has produced no good impression. It has done little to maintain the ancient fame of that body for ability and patriotism. It has shown a disposition to grasp for power which it has not the ability to rightly use. It has shown that it is capable of being influenced by petty considerations, notably in the case of Mr. HOAR for United States Justice. It is manifestly unequal to the great problems of government seeking a solution, but nevertheless has set itself up both against the President and the popular and abler branch of Congress. Probably at no time since the Government existed has the United States Senate stood so low in popular estimation. Now that Senator WILSON has spoken once let him speak again, and let the Senate know wherein it has failed, and what it must do to redeem itself. The truth told in time is better than confession made too late.

BANISHMENT for a month from Madrid and a fine of six thousand dollars do not seem to constitute a very severe punishment for murder, especially when the culprit is a Duke. Some would add—and when the person murdered happens to have been a Bourbon Prince. But the world has nothing more to fear from the scions of that ancient house, and the long catalogue of wrongs inflicted by it upon humanity may be justly considered as cancelled or atoned for, some time ago, by the sufferings and degradation of its members. Americans, at least, in memory of what once of them, LOUIS XVI, reluctantly did for us in our first war, and of what two of them, the Orleans Princes, voluntarily did for us in our last war, ought to abstain from exultations in their calamities. The result of the trial of the DUC DE MONTPENSIER is so much more favorable to him than he had any reason to expect, that he and his friends may regard it as an ebb in the tide of his misfortunes. Evil chances have long followed him. When he conspired against the Queen of Spain he doubtless hoped to succeed her, and it was certainly far from his purpose to drive his family from the Spanish throne. But this was the consequence of his attempt, not only without advantage to himself but with the result of incurring the fierce enmity of his relations. He seems to have fought the duel simply because, in accordance with the code of Spanish honor, he could not help it, and since its fatal termination he can hardly have anticipated as a penalty anything less than permanent exile from Spain and hopeless exclusion from the chances of becoming its King. We cannot pretend to conjecture what effect upon his political prospects may be produced by temporary banishment.

THE silly "organ" publishes the votes in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives on the "omnibus" bill. Admitting for the moment that this bill was wholly bad, and a "steal," let us examine the votes as given. The silly "organ" looks at everything in the light of the contest for Treasurer, and divides men and things into MACKEY and Anti-MACKEY—the former being the saints, the latter the other sort of course. So dividing the House as the members voted for Treasurer, let us see how they stood: When the bill came up on its second reading, 28 IRWIN men and 27 MACKEY men voted aye; in the negative there were 21 IRWIN men and 16 MACKEY men. The bill was "put through" under the ruling, Mr. DAVIS 29 IRWIN men voted aye. So you see where the saints were that time. On ordering the previous question, or applying the "gag," as the silly "organ" says, 28 IRWIN men and 29 MACKEY men voted aye. So you see the saints were at their posts that time. On the motion to postpone, 29 IRWIN men and 30 MACKEY men voted aye. On the final vote 31 IRWIN men and 30 MACKEY men voted aye, and in the negative there were 20 IRWIN men and 15 MACKEY men. So you perceive that the saints did their whole duty and in proportion to their number furnished most votes to carry the "Omnibus" bill through. Will the silly "organ" grind once more?

IN Washington questions concerning Canada are viewed solely with reference to annexation, which is regarded as simply "a question of time." If sanguine friends be active in management, and an annexation convention has been called to meet at Niagara Falls on the 4th of July next. The notice is put forth by AMERICUS S. WILSON, LOUIS MONTAGUE, and CHARLES S. DONALDSON, signing themselves respectively President, Vice-President, and Secretary, at Washington, Quebec, and Toronto. One delegate from each Congressional district in the United States, and one delegate from each 100,000 inhabitants in all the British Provinces will compose the convention. The address says:

> At all times, during the war of independence and since, the people of the United States have been in favor of an American Union. The union of kindred and contiguous nations has in all ages, been advantageous to the parties so united, and the principle has been extensively practised in Europe, with the general approval and the uniform advantage of the united nationalities.
>
> Meanwhile the annexation feeling in Nova Scotia is lively and the movement rather formidable. The Montreal *Pays* in an article on the subject says:
>
> This discontent has intensified to the highest point, and we will not be astonished if the present revolt be the precursor of annexation. Every one knows that annexation as the only thing which can remove the dissatisfied feeling which exists in the provinces, and put an end to the difficulties in which trade has been for years involved. The object is to bring together delegates representing the respectability and enterprise of the country—candidates whose standing will justify the confidence of the propertied classes and the friends of Peace, Order and Good Government, named among those who have consented to be nominated.—*New York Times.*

Why should not such a determination exist every where in regard to all the offices? It is evident that nothing short of this will remedy the evils about which the complaint has become universal.

THE Legislatures of the different States seem to be gaining an unenviable notoriety for incapacity and dishonesty, and general reform is called for. Even Massachusetts claims to have in her Legislature an unmitigated set of blockheads. The eccentricities of New York and Pennsylvania have already been well ventilated, but California caps the climax by designating her last Legislature as the "mud volcano of 1869-70." This is more expressive than elegant.

It is extremely pleasant to know that our credit stands so high abroad. But foreign credit is not so important as credit, contentment and prosperity at home. Without the latter the former cannot long exist. Of losing sight of this it must be admitted there is some danger. The payment of the debt depends on our own condition. With the country prosperous our standing abroad would take care of itself without the aid of special legislation. Without prosperity it will not be in the power of Congress to win foreign credit. It is with no satisfaction, therefore, that we see manifested so much anxiety for our foreign credit and so little done by Congress to insure home prosperity. It is by no means improbable that if we had less of the former there would be more of the latter.

THE letter which Mr. CHASE addressed to the colored people of Cincinnati is generally regarded as doubtless it was intended, a Presidential bid, a small one perhaps, nevertheless a bid. Though addressed to the colored people, the author doubtless intended it should be read by the leaders of the Democracy, whose support he expects yet to win. The Chief Justice certainly has a right to be encouraged regarding the next trial for a nomination, since it is a fact that in the Convention which nominated SEYMOUR, but for a slight accident, mingled with a certain amount of treachery, he would have been the nominee. At the moment the choice fell on SEYMOUR he had in his pocket the speech he expected to pronounce on CHASE'S nomination. The modest and unambitious CHASE thinks it would be nothing but fair that SEYMOUR should yet have a chance to deliver the speech. It is for that, and not on his own account, that he is angling for the Presidency from the Chief Justice's seat.

THE demoralizing effect of the modern system of stock speculation, or "gambling," is again illustrated in the fate of Mr. RICHARD COE, who was committed in Philadelphia on charges of embezzlement made respectively by the Mahanoy Valley, the East Mahanoy, the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain and the Colebrookdale Railroad Companies, of all of which he was the Treasurer, and which are owned and controlled by the Reading Railroad Company. The embezzlements amount in the aggregate to $39,637 35. Mr. COE had been regarded as a man of probity and honor, but in an evil hour was induced to embark in stock speculations; at first he went "long" and subsequently "short," losing his previous gains and the large amount above indicated, besides being short in his accounts.

EXTRA INDUCEMENTS!!

PREMIUMS FOR

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FOR THE

COMMERCIAL,

FOR 1870.

In order that all our new subscribers to the WEEKLY COMMERCIAL may share alike in the inducements we offer, we have made arrangements to furnish each single subscriber, at two dollars a year, with a valuable picture. The COMMERCIAL alone is fully worth the subscription price, but we are persuaded to offer this extra inducement in order that our circulation may be more rapidly extended. We have been at great cost in procuring these pictures, and the subscription price of our Weekly will scarcely cover the outlay. Every new subscriber, therefore, commencing December 1st, 1869, who sends us two dollars, will receive one of the following six pictures, the subscriber taking his choice:

I.---THE STRAW YARD.

The Straw Yard is copied from J. F. Herring's celebrated painting. It is a picture that interests at the first glance. Herring's animals are drawn from the human point of view. His brutes have not inaptly been termed "four legged humanity." The Straw Yard is one of his best efforts, felicitous in composition, lively in details, displaying an appreciation of nature seldom found in the treatment of rural subjects. Standing stoutly, with fetlocks partially covered with draggled, damp straw, munching carelessly at the straw lying before them in the open yard, and occupying a central position are two horses, whose very attitude suggests repose. The one weighted limb extending over them has sheltered them from the sun's rays in the hot August days. Yet all the while, in the space between the horses hoofs in quest of a chance grain or grub, the sparrows at their feet are equally indifferent to danger. Association; familiarity, breeds in them contempt. The ducks turn their bills under their wings in calm security; the pigs bury their snouts deep under the dank straw in their exaggerated search the vegetables flung down for their especial benefit, nothing by their selfish grunts those of their family in the immediate vicinity which are no ways slow in responding to the signal of a common conflict. In the distance a group of horses seek the shelter of a shed, from under which the cattle contemplate the scene complacently, snuffing the frosty air and varying the monotony of the winter day by fondling each other's manes. The engraving is 21x28 inches, and is equally suitable for the drawing-room or library.

II.---SHEARING TIME.

The conception of this picture is so simple as to appear almost obvious to the sympathies of the holder. Its perspective, like its principal figures, is true to nature. "Shearing Time" is copied from one of the oldest paintings produced by A. Berendsen, a famous artist. "Shearing Time" represents the sheep in the lowly life. The expression of the half shorn ram lying between the shearers is almost human. The expression and two thirds of the shearer, as with pipe in his mouth he deftly plies the attentive shears, the shepherd dog to the disposition of the next subject he deals the trying ordeal, is a study in itself. If the dog permits the sheep to stray after such a look as that cast upon him by his master, he is unworthy the confidence of his master's will, betrayed in every lineament of his stern and sensible countenance. The Highlands in the slumbrous distance, the friendly coffees of the lass at the gate, the occupation of the figures in the foreground, all go to make up a picture reminding the observer of a sweet melody, or a pensive poem. Size, 21x28 inches. A mate for the preceding picture.

III.---HALT IN THE WOOD.

Copied from F. Gaurmann, whose works display a technical strength, an imagination competent to high creative art, and a knowledge of naturalistic truth which has placed him in the front rank of modern painters. The "Halt in the Wood" is full of ease, grace and vitality. Its personages are true to nature. The thirsty hunter quaffing leisurely from the limpid stream can well afford to halt in the shade, leaving his panting steed to look after the honors laden with the fruits of the chase. The tired steeds in their turn accept the respite thankfully, while the gamekeepers, now laid the excitement of the hunt is over, contemplate with pardonable pride the antlers of the deer which are the crowning trophies of the day, commenting between the whiffs of their pipes upon the conduct of the dogs, and their good fortune. The figures are picturesquely grouped, exhibiting the ease and freedom of action common to the life of a sportsman. A picture to please the multitude, with special charms for lovers of the chase. Size 21 by 26 inches.

IV.--GAMEKEEPERS' RETURN.

This is also copied from F. Gaurmann. Like the "Halt in the Wood" picture, "The Gamekeeper's Return" displays the ready and quick hand of a master. Full of spirit, singularly clear, firm and effective in style, it displays a delicacy of refinement in execution and sentiment not always found in his genre, or domestic paintings, Gaurmann appears to be as much at home as in the difficult task of depicting the passions and sentiment of animal life. We say "home" painting, because "The Gamekeeper's Return" awakens all those sentiments, feelings and ideas which have their origin and growth under the family roof, and in the family. The Gamekeeper is the central figure. Ere he lays his gun, with which, in hand, he directs his wife's attention to the game beneath which the table beside him fairly groans. Hares, rabbits, pheasants, quails, each in turn vie with each other to be the admiring gaze of his wife, who in her eagerness to pass upon the merits of the game, pauses in her domestic occupation, extending a critical hand. The gamekeeper's son flings the weight of game from his shoulders; the antlers of the crowned deer stretch across the floor, and a setter, in his eagerness to quench his thirst, laps up a pool in a corner. Men and dogs are privileged characters; the fruits of the chase absorbs the attention of the tidy housekeeper. Size 21x26 inches, a companion piece to the preceding picture.

V.--FIRST LESSON IN NAVIGATION.

There is something in life on the sea that fascinates old and young. Even those who recoil from the adventuresome life of those who "go down to the sea" in great ships, display a fondness for the less venturesome attempts of coast life. A sail with a spanking breeze, under safe guidance, has charms which few can resist. This charm the artist conveys in a pleasing manner in the First Lesson in Practical Navigation. There is just enough "cap" on the waves to indicate a breeze. The old fisherman, seated at the helm, is a study. His pipe in his mouth, he casts a watchful glance over his shoulder upon the young navigator, who, with bare head, and shielded from the wind and spray by his father's cape, keeps the small craft in her course, employing both hands, and preserving the grave countenance which becomes great responsibilities. The elder brother, bare headed, bare footed and coatless, sits on the edge of the craft, intent upon the line, absorbed in the sport. The boat is already filled with fish, but the young navigator will not relinquish his responsible position until the vessel's head is turned homewards. The First Lesson in Navigation" is one of the finest conceptions conceived by an artist. A picture to dwell on, appealing as it does to our finer sympathies. Size 21x26 inches.

VI.---WEGHING THE DEER.

This is pronounced one of the best of Gaurmann's successful genre pictures. Although there are seven full length figures in the picture, they are grouped in such a skilful manner as to afford ample scope for the elaboration of the details which are nec